



## From the Principal High Talent

Congratulations to Cassiel Yun (11T) on his win in the Mobile Muster competition. His poster design was high class. Well done to all our successful Duke of Edinburgh participants. Gold – Cassiell Yun, Lucas Su. Silver - Adrian Wang, Francesco Menichetti, Haroon Syed, Om Kothari, Jiekai Miao, Lachlan Yuen, ryan chai, Sajan Thiagalingam, Siddarth Menon and William Cahyadi. Bronze – Daniel Kuskopff and Dhuryah Sapra.



## Final High Notes for 2025

As next week is the last week of term, this will be the last edition of High Notes, possibly also in this format. We have to consider moving to Sway or its replacement Google software and decide on going all digital as a publication, sometime in 2026. Thank you to Rosa Owen for managing and editing the publication and Brooke Ashton for her proof reading. Thank you to the teachers, students and parents who contributed to making High Notes a weekly, informative and celebratory vehicle for news about student activities and achievement, and about educational issues more generally.



## Interpreting Year 10 Reports – Semester 2

All Year 10 boys should now have their reports. Parents are advised to work with their sons in the process of choosing Year 11 courses to be sure they have made the right choices, aligning their abilities, interests, and possible post-secondary plans. It is really important for students to be sure about their selections. Choosing courses for Year 11 study can be assisted by evaluations of Year 10 performances. English and mathematics courses are determined by the school's pattern

of offered courses and by the results of the mathematics selection process for extension 1. For Year 11, 2026 the permitted number will be - as is our custom – seven classes only. Year 10 boys should have done their *Career Voyage* questionnaire during their Transition Education periods. These results should be discussed in the light of your son's interests and abilities. Courses can be selected to underscore certain tertiary directions – eg chemistry for medicine, or economics for a commerce degree. Year 10 boys should all have had interviews with a member of staff to discuss their possible pathways and appropriate Year 11 course selections. Year 10 boys should all complete their Life Ready courses next week. It is compulsory in order to complete Preliminary HSC study.

As for the semester 1 report, ranks are varied by several factors. Students who have not performed well in PE will have a slightly reduced ATAR prediction because the calculation is made on 12.3 units (using a pro rata for PE based on time spent). Students who do the online elective receive the average of the other units, so as neither to advantage nor disadvantage them, whereas they may have taken another elective and earned an above average score or a below average score. Students accelerating have a harder task than non-accelerants as they are assessed at stage 6 standard. Consequently, their scaled marks may be lower, reducing their overall score, and hence rank. Students may also lose interest in electives they are not continuing and record weaker results. Electives done for enjoyment are in contrast to the serious efforts that will need to be made in their stage 6 courses. I do not make a judgement on these outcomes. Stage 5 satisfactory completion is all that is required in Year 10. What matters is what happens next, in stage 6. Therefore, students should choose their suite of courses for Year 11 ultra carefully, with insights gained after research and discussion with parents and staff and by acting in their own self-interest. Course selection amendments need to be finalised early in the new year.

**Course Selection**

## Interpreting Year 8 Reports – Semester 2

[Year 8 will get their reports next week]. When coming to the end of Year 8, some boys do not put much effort into subjects they do not intend to continue. This behaviour is regrettable but understandable. Parents should realise that such a lack of interest in one or two subjects can result in big fluctuations in grades awarded by teachers, and in turn, cause large movements in overall ranks. Some boys are better at geography or history and the semesterisation of subjects might not suit them for half the year. Such fluctuations will be reflected in ratings on 'learning behaviours' by teachers on reports and by comments from the Principal. From one perspective, parents can appreciate better what sort of learner their son is *not*. It is better not to persist in a discipline that does not excite you and motivate you to excel. For other students, doing well in the Yearly examination is their objective. They can turn around their cruising first semester with much more self-disciplined effort in the second half of the year.

Elective choice going into Year 9 is very important. Students need to follow their interests in a low-stakes choice environment. Some boys change both electives again in Year 10! We offer a wide range of electives for students to experience different learning contexts, with varying content and required skill sets. By the end of Year 8, the generalist focus for secondary education is completed. That is, compulsory experiences in music, visual arts and technology have now finished. Stage 5 is characterised by learner exploration and enlargement of perspective – more student choice. Students start to prepare for stage 6 selections by trialling subjects. Of course, the core subjects are vitally important, and students need to be held accountable for their satisfactory progress in them. At our school, the expectation is state grade 'A' performance in core subjects. Discuss your son's report from the two perspectives – core and future electives. Talk about their selections with them. Let them follow their interests.

**Dr K A Jaggard**  
Principal

## HIGH STORE

### HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES 2026

Tuesday 27 Jan 2026 Hours 10.30am – 1pm.

Wednesday 28 Jan 2026 Hours 10.30am – 1pm.

Friday 30 Jan 2026 Hours 10.30am – 1pm - **NEW STUDENTS - no appointments scheduled.**

NEW Students entering Year 7 or Year 9 or Year 11 in 2026 will not be processed on Tuesday 27 Jan 2026 or Wednesday 28 Feb 2026.

## Student Account Access when Overseas!

### Are you travelling overseas?

Student access to school and Departmental services (portal, email, Canvas, Clipboard, ClickView, etc etc) is ordinarily **blocked** when you are outside Australia.

If your child needs to access their account when overseas, you can enable access for a period of time:

- Visit the [Student Details](#) section of Parent Portal and expand the **Student Overseas Access** section.
- Fill out the form including the days you will be away, where you are going and why your child will need access.
- This information will be recorded and access granted.

If you are travelling overseas, there is also a good chance the school's identity protection system will consider you at high risk of account compromise and **lock your child's account**. They can fix this by pre-registering for Multi-Factor Authentication, preferably using the Microsoft Authenticator app on a phone or a Passkey.

To manage Multi-Factor Authentication methods students should:

- Visit <https://aka.ms/mfasetup>
- Log in and click "Add sign-in method"
- Pick a sign-in method and follow the instructions.



### CASH REGISTER CLOSING

Due to the end of school/financial year all student payments for excursions, co-payments, contributions, textbooks etc. must be made by **1.05pm (lunchtime) Wednesday 17 December 2025.**

Please Note: The **online payment system will be closed** from **3.15pm Wednesday 17 December 2025.**

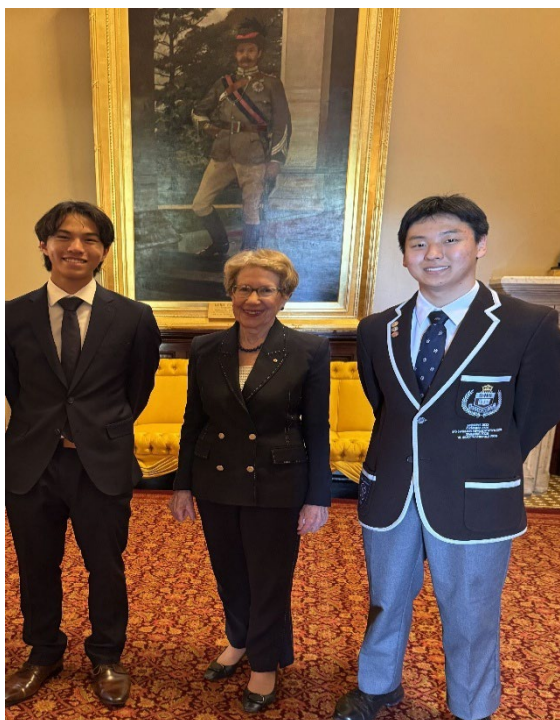
The **cash registers will be closed** from the end of lunch (**1.05pm**) **Wednesday 17 December** and will not reopen until school resumes in 2026.

Please finalise all outstanding items before the register closes.

**Thank you**



**Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Ceremony.**  
 On Thursday 25 November 2025 Dean Johnsun (Class of 2024) and Cassiel Yun in Year 11 met Her Excellence The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW.



Also, the following Students completed their Duke of Edinburgh Award:

<b>Lucas Su</b>	11	Gold
<b>Adrian Wang</b>	11	Silver
<b>Francesco Menichetti</b>	10	Silver
<b>Haroon Syed</b>	10	Silver
<b>Jiekai Miao</b>	11	Silver
<b>Lachlan Yuen</b>	11	Silver
<b>Om Kothari</b>	10	Silver
<b>Ryan Chai</b>	10	Silver
<b>Sajan Thiagalingam</b>	10	Silver
<b>Siddharth Menon</b>	11	Silver
<b>William Cahyadi</b>	10	Silver
<b>Daniel Kuskoff</b>	10	Bronze
<b>Dhuryah Sapra</b>	10	Bronze

**Miss Joanna Chan**  
 Head Teacher Student Wellbeing

*Congratulations!*

# LIFE READY PROGRAMME

## Year 10 Life Ready Program

The life ready program is a mandatory program.

The course aims to prepare and support students to lead, and contribute to, healthy, safe and meaningful lives which promote respect, responsibility, enjoyment, inclusion and social justice for self and others.

The program will run across 3 days, Monday 15 December 2025 - Wednesday 17 December 2025 - during the last week of the school year.

Any student who does not complete this course or is required to be removed due to poor behaviour will complete an alternative task due Monday 2 February 2026.

### Monday 15 December 2025

Period 1 and 2 – Drug and safe partying education.

Period 3 – CPR.

Period 4 – HSC Stress.

Period 5 - Collaborative SGHS Task - Positive and Healthy Relationships.

### Tuesday 16 December 2025

Period 1 and 2 – Tomorrow Man – Breaking the Man Code.

Period 1 and 2 – Resilience and Support Network – Smash the Stigma.

Period 3 and 4 - Tomorrow Man – Breaking the Man Code.

Period 3 and 4 - Resilience and Support Network – Smash the Stigma.

Period 5 - You Choose – Road Safety.

### Wednesday 17th December 2025

Period 1 and 2 – Life Choices by Young Men.

Period 3 – Evaluation.

**Kurt Rich**  
 Life Ready Coordinator



# SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CAREERS

## 1. UNIVERSITY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Want to discover your opportunities after High? Then read along...

### Creating Your University Roadmap

For the Class of 2026, having just begun Year 12, it is essential that you create a University Roadmap. Use [UAC](#) to find **safety**, **reach**, and **match** courses and institutions to know what your objectives for the coming year are.

### Scholarships

Even though the Class of 2026 has just started Year 12, *scholarship deadlines* are already rapidly approaching. Use [Study Work Grow's scholarship database](#) to discover what you're eligible for and ensure you don't miss any deadlines.

### Interested in studying medicine or dentistry at USYD?

If so, then make sure to watch [this guide](#) on *medicine* and *dentistry admissions* to better understand the *application process* and explore pathways to a dynamic career in *health*.

## 2. STUDY SKILLS

### The FOUR Types of Study

Believe it or not, but not all study is created equal. There are **four** unique types of study: **1. Revision** **2. Knowledge Building** **3. Practice** AND **4. Preparation**. Read [this article](#) to learn when and how to use each type.

## 3. CAREERS AND JOBS

### LinkedIn - The Way of the Future

LinkedIn is a social networking platform revolutionizing the way *employers* and *employees* connect across all careers and industries. If you are **over 16**, it is **ESSENTIAL** that you make an account and start building your **profile** and **network** today.

Use [this article](#) to learn how to make a standout profile in high school.

## 4. COMPETITIONS

Looking to spice up your resume whilst earning sweet rewards? Then this section is for you...

### [Francis Forbes Society Essay Competition](#)

Are you in **Junior (7-10)** or **Senior (11-12)** secondary school and passionate about **law**? If so, then enter your essay on **Australian Legal History** by **December 19<sup>th</sup>** for a chance to win **\$250 AUD**.

### [Immerse Education Essay Competition](#)

Do you want to gain further insights into **tertiary study**? If so, then enter your **500 word essay** by **January 14<sup>th</sup> 2026** for a chance to win a **full Immerse Education tertiary experience scholarship**.

**Ryan Allen**  
**Careers Prefect**



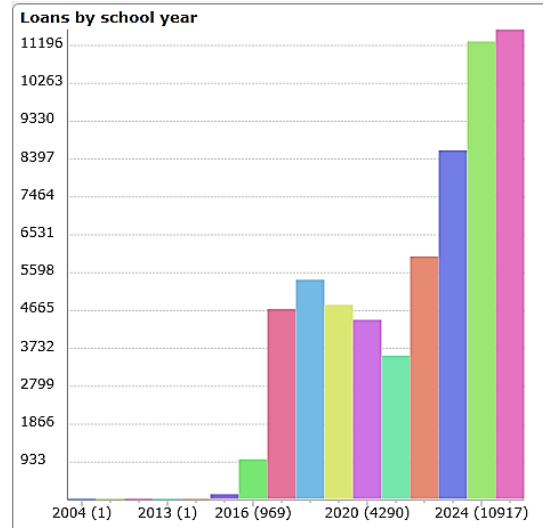


### Andrews Junior Library VIP Reader Prizes

Every year we have a prize draw in December for our Junior Library VIP Readers. Any Junior who has borrowed more than ten books can enter, and students with more loans can enter up to five times. On Monday, December 9 we gave away 14 major prizes, and another 20 or so random chocolate prizes. We gave away gift vouchers and chocolates, and the library was packed with boys desperate to win a prize! It was a little chaotic, and I'm glad we only do it once a year!

Congratulations to the following students on their wins: Jacky Vo, Sashwin Subakesan, Keiran Tedjasaputra, Daivik Patadia, Tony Liu, Chi Hin Ling, Jackson Lai, Wilson Hong, Matthew Law, Ryan Xu, Sunny Yu, Keshav Dinesh, Lucas Chen, and Alex Deng, who has won a prize every year for the past three years! Lucky Alex! Congratulations to all our winners!

We have had another strong year of borrowing. The Year 7 students this year have been avid borrowers and readers, and our number one borrower this year has borrowed 479 books as of today! This year's strong Premier's Reading Challenge numbers also helped increase our numbers. We have had over 11,000 loans this year, and that will go up in the last two weeks of the year as students borrow books for the holidays. For the past three years we have increased borrowing numbers by 2000 books a year, but we may have reached the limits of such large increases.



Our biggest category of loans has been Graphic Literature, which includes graphic novels and manga. Since early 2022, when the large collection of manga was transferred from the Senior Library to the Junior Library, the number of loans has exploded from a few hundred, to thousands. Manga are hugely popular with the junior age group, and students can read a large number of them in a short space of time. The Graphic collection is also great not only for general literacy, but also for helping students with visual literacy, a core component of the English curriculum.

**Dr R Love**  
Andrews Junior Library

# Congratulations!





As we reach the end of the 2025 school year, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who have supported our SBHS Canteen this year. A big shout out to our superstar managers Karen and Eirini, and our wonderful assistant staff for their amazing efforts each day. To our incredible volunteers - mums, dads, grandparents, family members - who give up their time so generously, and to those who work hard behind-the-scenes on our Canteen Committee to keep everything running smoothly - your dedication and commitment are deeply appreciated! A special thank you to Dr. Jaggar for your constant guidance and support of our Canteen operations, and sincere thanks to our student SRC leaders and Prefects who selflessly give up their break times to assist with window service.

Thanks to everyone's support, our Canteen was able to contribute \$85,000 this year towards a range of school programs, including bus replacements, the Speed and Agility Program, new Faculty textbooks, Wellio Wellbeing Programs, physio and rehab programs, ATOMI initiative, Literacy workshops, and the Student Activities Fund. We are truly grateful for everyone's ongoing support that keeps our P&C-run Canteen thriving!



On Friday 12 December, our Canteen held a Christmas Special Day. Thank you to our amazing Canteen President Vivian Chen for delighting the boys with very merry Santa Rice bowls with Jolly Baked Wings and Salad; Yuletide Roast Drumsticks with Gingerbread Man Bun; and Holiday Cheer Mango Sago Smoothie drinks!



With the holiday season upon us, we hope you all take this special time to relax, recharge and enjoy the festive spirit with your loved ones. Wishing everyone a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy 2026 ahead - we look forward to seeing you again next year at our SBHS Canteen!



This year, our Canteen proudly launched a new initiative - supporting students in completing their Duke of Edinburgh Award by offering volunteering opportunities at our Canteen. It has been a great honour for our Canteen team to guide our Duke of Ed students on their journey. As the Canteen President, I am incredibly proud of all the students. They have shown outstanding commitment, dedication and responsibility. Every student worked diligently to complete their requirements, and their efforts have been recognised and praised by both their peers and volunteer parents.

These Duke of Ed students generously gave up their own break times to assist with window service and other tasks. Their hard work and positive attitude have led to excellent outcomes and they have gained valuable skills and knowledge that will benefit them in the future.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Dr Jaggar, Program Co-ordinator Joanna Chan, and our Canteen Managers Eirini and Karen for their strong support in making this initiative possible. Finally, we would like to extend a special commendation to all students who participated in this program. Well done and thank you!

**Vivian Chen**  
Canteen President



Below are some testimonials from Duke of Ed students and parents, showing their support for this initiative:

**Parent Qihua:** "My child and I are truly grateful to the School Canteen for giving students this opportunity to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award community service. Ever since joining the Canteen Duke of Ed program, my son has developed a genuine interest in cooking. I'm so happy and proud to see him use these newfound skills to help out the Canteen. Furthermore, getting up early to help at the Canteen once a week throughout the program has instilled great habits like self-management and perseverance. I'm so pleased to see him mature and grow through this program. This has truly been a positive experience for him".

**Lucas Xu:** "Volunteering in our SBHS Canteen this year as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award has positively influenced my traits and abilities - just as it has for my peers in the program, who have also considered it a truly invaluable experience. My teamwork and cohesion with others, socialising with peers, kitchen knowledge and preparation skills, as well as my willingness and ability to take responsibility and action to give back to the community, have continued to develop my shortcomings as well as my strengths in the canteen. Overall, I would like to thank the following people who are key to my journey, and who have made this program possible, including Vivian, Karen, Eirini, and several other parent volunteers who have been instrumental in giving their time to support the Canteen".



**Ryan Zhou:** "Working in the Canteen for the Duke of Ed Program has been a very interesting experience so far. There are many things that one requires to work in the Canteen; we need to commit to our schedule and show up regularly, we need to help others when required to, and we require adequate dexterity and memory. In the Canteen, tasks such as handing people their lunch orders requires fast hands and quick thinking, to deliver other boys their lunch efficiently to speed up the line. When serving people looking to buy lunch or snacks, good memory and communication is required to ensure we charge the right amount of money and that they receive the correct item. When helping out with the food, it is important to strictly maintain hygiene standards such as wearing gloves and washing hands. Overall, volunteering in the Canteen is a great learning experience for all and a great way to demonstrate responsibility".

# grateful

Weier Lu: "Working at the Canteen this past year has been a journey of many fruitions. What began as simply an absent-minded chore, to merely check one off the list - quickly blossomed into something else entirely! As they say, the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others".

Daniel Qian: "Volunteering at the Canteen gave me experience to increase autonomy in work environments. Its short duration allows for flexible scheduling and prevents monotony. Overall, volunteering at the Canteen allowed me to flexibly accumulate work experience, improving my problem solving and independence".

Sayyan Doke: "My experience with volunteering in the Canteen was very welcoming. Eirini, Karen and all the volunteer parents made it a very warm and inclusive environment for me. Thanks for making it a really enjoyable learning experience for me to complete my Duke of Edinburgh sessions".



## PLEASE NOTE

**From our Canteen Managers:** On Friday 19 December 2025, the last day of term, the boys will be able to place **orders for recess only** (either at the window or via Flexischools). Lunch ordering will not be available; however, there will be some food options still sold at the window. Please note there will be a limited menu on the day.



# EVENTS

On Tuesday 9 December 2025, new students and parents were welcomed to Orientation Day with these special treats at our Canteen Stall, handcrafted by our wonderful Vivian Chen!



## Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

A heartfelt thank you to the following parents for generously volunteering their time in the Canteen these past few weeks!

**Thursday 4 December:** Yan Wang, Hari Koli.

**Friday 5 December:** Thi Ly, Pam Jolly.

**Monday 8 December:** Grace Guan, Wei Chen.

**Tuesday 9 December:** Lily Jia, Qihua Xu.

**Wednesday 10 December:** Huanying Pan, Emily Chow.

**J Yuan**  
**On Behalf of the SBHS Canteen Committee**



## **SBMUN 2025: A Reflection on Our Inaugural Conference**

This Monday, Sydney Boys High School hosted its very first Model United Nations conference, and I am proud to say it exceeded every expectation we had when we first started planning months ago.

As Secretary-General, working alongside Aryan Ghosh, our Director-General, these past few months have been a journey of curating logos and designs, establishing an organising committee, reviewing applications, coordinating procedures, and ensuring every committee had the resources they needed. Seeing all that work come together so successfully on the day filled us both with immense pride. This was our inaugural conference, and watching it unfold exactly as we envisioned, and even better, made every late planning session worthwhile.

This conference would not have been possible without the incredible support of Ms Stephens, our Legal Debating and MUN coordinator, who helped us through every step of the planning process. We are also deeply grateful to Dr Jaggar for his continued support of the MUN program at Sydney Boys High.

A special thank you to The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull AC, who took time out of his schedule to join us, deliver an inspiring address, and present awards to our delegates. His presence made the day truly memorable.

To our chairs and organising committee, thank you for your leadership, patience, and the countless hours you dedicated behind the scenes. You shaped this conference from an idea into an experience that delegates will remember.

To every delegate who participated, watching you debate with confidence, collaborate with empathy, and commit fully to your roles made all the work worthwhile. Your speeches, your amendments, your teamwork, and your spirit brought SBMUN 2025 to life in ways Aryan and I could only have hoped for.

Seeing months of planning culminate in a day of thoughtful debate and genuine engagement meant more to us than we can express. You didn't just attend a conference; you turned a vision into a reality.

We are incredibly grateful to have shared the inaugural SBMUN conference with such an inspiring and talented group of students.

Thank you for making this beginning so meaningful.

**Aarya Retnasingham**  
**Secretary-General**



## **SBHS Environment Team 2025 Donations**

We achieved great success in fundraising for environmental causes in 2025.

Every Friday, team members collect the school's recycling, including Return and Earn bottles and cans. In 2025 our team raised \$195. The funds were donated to three causes: Sea Shepherd Australia, The Wombat Foundation and Rotary Adopt-a-Tree. These three causes reflect our team's commitment to the preservation of our Australian habitats at sea and on land.

Our support for Rotary Adopt-a-Tree means that 7 native trees will be propagated and planted in 2026.

The SBHS Environment Team will continue to recycle and fundraise in 2026 with the goal of exceeding the current amount.

We look forward to an ongoing partnership with Rotary Adopt-a-Tree. The numerous benefits of tree-planting include habitat restoration for native species, reflecting our team and school values of dedication to a cause, respect for nature and compassion for our native animals.

Integrity has been practised by our 28 team members from Year 8 – 11, led by Team Leader Lucas Xu (11S).



Thank you to staff and students for continuing to use our school's yellow "bottle bins" to support our environmental fundraising throughout 2025.

**Miri Jassy**  
**Teacher**



Cassiel Yun, Sydney Boys High School  
**Winner**  
MobileMuster 2025 Schools Competition

Check out Cassiel's incredible artwork below:

# WHAT'S IN A PHONE?

**More than 95% of materials recoverable**

**E-waste equivalent to A Great Pyramids of Giza**

**Over 40 metals in a phone**

**CHANCE TO RECYCLE... THE TREASURES**

- **Circuit Boards**  
Gold (Au)  
Silver (Ag)  
Copper (Cu)  
Aluminium (Al)  
Zinc (Zn)  
Tin (Sn)  
Antimony (Sb)
- **Cases**  
Aluminium (Al)  
Titanium (Ti)  
Nickel (Ni)  
Chromium (Cr)
- **Screen**  
Indium (In)
- **Batteries**  
Graphene (C)  
Nickel (Ni)  
Cobalt (Co)  
Lithium (Li)
- **Others**  
Glass  
Plastics

**OLD PHONE**  
↓  
**LANDFILL**  
↓  
Produces Harmful Elements  
CO<sub>2</sub>  
CH<sub>4</sub>  
Pb  
HF  
Hg  
Cd  
Cs  
Ni  
Cr  
As

**Drop off**  
↓  
**Transportation**  
↓  
**mobilemuster**  
↓  
**Reused**

**NOT TRASH — A SECOND CHANCE FOR THE PLANET**

MobileMuster in 2024, donated \$40,000 to organisations including THE SALVATION ARMY, DV SAFE PHONE and various zoos across Australia such as TARONGA ZOO, TARONGA WESTERN PLAIN ZOO, ADELAIDE ZOO, SYDNEY ZOO, MONARTO SAFARI PARK, ZOOS VICTORIA.  
Please recycle now with Mobile Muster.



## PAWS End Of Year Report

This year has been another very positive journey for the PAWS community.

We spent a great deal of time focussing on 3 main areas: the use of camels and their treatment in the Northern Territory, greyhound racing and its compatriot horse racing.

Earlier this year we had a big focus on the camel riding industry, which use many methods equal to torture, such as castration and nose rings, to control these beings. With them surviving on little food and water, forced to obey their captors, they are often scared for their lives every day of the week. Once learning about this issue, we instantly knew we had to help, so we all wrote letters to the Northern Territory government demanding that the companies controlling these camels have restrictions and laws placed upon them, so that the animals are treated better.

We also had a large focus on the racing industry, especially greyhound racing, where we had Kylie Field from the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds come to one of our meetings. She gave an impactful speech describing the dangers to the animals of racing from as early as 1.5 years old. This inspired us to create posters for various protests across Sydney against greyhound racing and the tracks that host these events.

Recently we had some good news with the Wentworth Park racing facility being closed and bulldozed for parkland and housing development, which is much more beneficial than a dog racing ring of death. With horse racing we had a look at the rise of generative horse racing which, despite its flaw with betting and gambling problems, is a much better alternative to hurting animals for our enjoyment. We also had a Nup To The Cup party which, this year, was attended by more students than ever, showing the need for reform in the industry and the angst of the younger generation toward "sports" such as horse racing.

Overall, we have had a brilliant year this year and we are looking forward to more success in 2026.

**Otis Candy 10M**



## Mock Mediation – The Grand Final!

On Friday, 28 November, the Sydney Boys Mock Mediation Team headed to the Law Society of New South Wales to compete in the prestigious 2025 Mock Mediation Grand Final, against Jame Ruse. Our school had not won this competition since 2018, so we were not sure what to expect.

This mediation was almost 2 months in the making. Preparation started as soon as we realised, we had made it to the final.

We trained at least once or twice a week and, in the week leading up to the mediation, we managed to fit in six coaching sessions!

The team, consisting of Maximilian Ibrahim, Oscar Li, Marco Ma, Zihan Chi, Isran Kanwar, Talha Adnan and Mekaeel Khan, headed into the mediation at 11am. Two months of preparation, for two hours of work. The scenario we were given was a complex one: four nurses who used to be friends, fell out when one of them got a promotion and found out that two of the others had called in sick to go on holiday because their leave request had been denied. The nurses were overworked, struggling with their demanding job and felt that they had to lie to get a much-needed break. Their former friend, new to his management position, felt that his decision should have been respected.

During the feedback session the judges called it one of the best mediations in a long time and lamented on the fact that they could not record it. In the end, the judges called the runner ups to be James Ruse.

## We had done it!

**The Sydney Boys High School 2025 Mock Mediation Team has beaten James Ruse for the championship title!**

Our coach, Nikolai, has been extremely supportive and helpful. We could not have managed this without his expertise.

**Maxi Ibrahim 9M**



# Music NOTES



## High Music Talent

Congratulations to Tuyvan Mai Year 10 for his success in gaining a position in the NSW Arts Unit Public Schools Senior Singers.

The vocal ensembles play a major role in staged events held across NSW and are one of the featured ensembles at the Opera House Festivals and other high-profile events.

You will work with some of the finest Tutors and Conductors in the country.

## Music Concert Weekend

What a huge weekend of music. Saturday concert was held in the Great Hall and despite the heat and humidity, all ensembles performed outstandingly. The show opened with the groovy Guitar Ensemble led by Aaron Flower, followed by the Junior String Quartet and then our newest addition to the performance program, the Indian Music Ensemble

played and directed by Advait Ilavajhala. Symphony Orchestra continued into the next set, then the Chamber Choir led by James Paul sang a heartwarming rendition of David Bowie's *Space Oddity*. Philharmonic Strings Ensemble directed by Edmund Ing, performed a vibrant arrangement of Vivaldi's *L'estro Armonica* and Intermediate Concert Band played two exciting numbers:

*The Magnificent Seven* and *El Camino*. Senior String Quartet, followed by the Symphonic Strings Ensemble, showcased the amazing musical talents of our string section.

Percussion Ensemble and Chamber Percussion group run by Kevin Chen and Ben Pirom, performed the rhythmic work *Going Home* and ethereal *Equivalence*. Our big finale closed with the Senior Concert Band's energetic performance of *Legacy* and John Williams' *Chillers and Thrillers*.



### **Sunday's Jazz in the Courtyard**

Sunday's Jazz in the Courtyard continued the festive weekend of music, where we battled strong winds that tested the reflex and coordination of our young musicians as they had to play their instruments whilst catching flying music scores at the same time. Senior Stage Band, led by renowned Trumpeter Bob Coassin, opened the afternoon. Our guest musician, year 12 saxophonist Liam Greacen, graciously stepped in at the last minute to fill in Alto 2 part, saving the day. Junior Stage Band rocked several popular charts, followed by the tight Jazz Ensemble and last but certainly not least, our Intermediate Stage Band playing the final set.

Congratulations and well done to all the boys in the music performance program for their hard work and dedication, what a fabulous 'note' to end the year on!

### **Music Dinner**

As we come to the end of 2025, we celebrate the wonderful achievements of our young musicians in the music program.

The dinner will be a fun night of games and festivities with great food organised by the Music Parent Committee.

Special thanks to Lindy Masya (Music PC President) and the army of parent volunteers who work quietly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the night.

**Suzanna Lim**  
Music Teacher





### **Shed Race Report**

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's Sydney Boys rowing on the wrong side of the river. To the ferry driver's demise, the annual 3k race between all Sydney Boys and Sydney Girls crews marked an incredible sight of boats carving through the river, fighting to make a statement.

After not having a shed race last season, the 1st VIII was itching to dethrone the defending champion, Year 9, 3rd quad. With the addition of Jun Shim and his experience as a former member of the champion quad, there is no way we could lose, right? The first challenge was beating the 2nd VIII, as their 30-second head start seemed insurmountable. Yet, there will be no "miracle on ice" (Tom Zheng, 2nd VIII coxswain) for them this time. Lucas' aggressive steering took us on the outside line. Indeed, it was a gamble: to row an extra distance to avoid other crews, or to take the shortest line.

It became apparent that Lucas had made the right call as the 2nd VIII faded into the distant view. Although we were filled with spirit, we had underestimated the sheer distance the junior quads had gained during the staggered start. Behind every overtake revealed two more crews we had to pass remaining true to heart and rowing our hardest.

As we realised how far ahead the other crews were, desperation settled in. Our actions weren't as clean, and the supposed rate 30 was continuously rushed to rate 32. All this led to our ultimate demise.

The hit song by ABBA states that "the loser has to fall," yet conversely, "the winner takes it all". The Sydney Girl Year 8,1st quad led the race and won unquestionably. The first Sydney Boys crew to finish was the Year 8,5th quad in third place. If only they had been bribed with passing the new minimum age requirements for social media, then they would have rowed faster. They fought hard for second place, yet ultimately, were overtaken in the final corner as another Sydney Girls' quad had the better racing line.

With the conclusion of the shed race, the Sydney Girls rowers were invited to the rowing sheds, incentivising much-needed interactions between the two schools and starting new friendships. Thank you to Mr Barris and the Sydney Girls' Rowing staff for organising this fun event and motivating the whole shed to continue training hard.

**Gabriel Zhang,**  
**1st VIII**





### SBHS SAILING 2025

As the first half of the season comes to an end, we once again face a pivotal point in our training.

Up ahead looms our final trial, the New South Wales Teams Sailing All Schools Regatta. In this interim between this trial and our past few weeks of hard training, we host our annual Christmas party, which acts as the threshold before the final few weeks leading up to our Regatta.

I would like to congratulate all the award winners:  
**Most Improved Senior - Ethan Ma - Most Improved Junior Adrian Lin-Daryanai - Most Improved New Sailor - Andy Lee.**

**High Spirit Award Winners - Sebastian Finn, Mathis Le Digarcher, Jinosh Rajendra, Justin Ni, Charlie Zhou.**

I would like to give thanks to all the parents who have contributed so much towards the ongoing success of our program, who are integral to its running.



I would also like to give thanks to all our coaches!

This year we had the pleasure and honour of being joined by Dr Jaggar.

Dr Jaggar helped present our awards for this season, and I thank you for your continued support of this program and sport.

I would like to thank Woollahra Sailing Club and its team, for continuing to provide us with such a welcoming and great venue.

And finally, the Scots staff who have freely offered their time and support and supported us in various ways over the season.

As we head off towards the last few weeks of training, I would like to remind all the grade sailors that these weeks do count, every skill and manoeuvre that we practice will make an impact on our final performance.

**Kevin Xie**  
**Senior Sailing Captain 2026**

# Bring Your Own Device 2026

## PRODUCT OPTIONS

Our **recommended** devices are designed to simplify your choices and purchasing processes. A range of devices in a range of form-factors are available. All meet the school's Device Specification. All have specifications chosen to ensure reliability and all are backed by a multi-year warranty where the school will act as warranty agent on your behalf. Sydney Boys High School has partnered with JB Hi-Fi Education to make our recommended devices available:



### Lenovo 13w Gen 3

\$1385

- Multi-touch with full keyboard
- 1920 x 1200 pixel screen
- 16GB RAM + 512GB Storage
- 360 degree rotating hinge
- Windows 11
- 3 Year warranty, school-supported.



### Microsoft Surface Laptop 7

\$2011

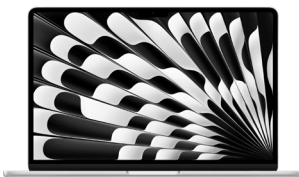
- Multi-touch with full keyboard
- 2256 x 1504 pixel screen
- 16GB RAM + 512GB Storage
- Conventional laptop form-factor
- Windows 11
- 3 Year warranty, school-supported



### Apple MacBook Air M2

\$1610

- Apple's M2 processor
- 2560 x 1664 pixel retina screen
- 16GB RAM + 256GB Storage
- macOS 26 'Tahoe'
- price including 3 Year AppleCare+, school-supported (warranty upgrade is optional on Apple products. You must select the 3 year warranty to receive support from the school)



### Apple MacBook Air M4

\$2062

- Apple's M4 processor
- 2560 x 1664 pixel retina screen
- 16GB RAM + 512GB Storage
- macOS 26 'Tahoe'
- price including 3 Year AppleCare+, school-supported (warranty upgrade is optional on Apple products. You must select the 3 year warranty to receive support from the school)

## HOW TO BUY

- Visit the JB purchasing portal at <https://sbhs.co/bbuy>
- Log in with code **SBHSBYOD**
- Purchase using a credit card, BPAY or on interest-free terms
- Click and collect from your local JB Hi-Fi store



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# Rail Safety

## Look, Listen, Live!

### Light Rail Safety

#### Heads Up – Play it Safe around Light Rail

Whether you are walking, riding, driving or catching public transport, it is important we all know the rules and play our part to stay safe around light rail.

#### Top 5 Light Rail Safety Tips

Know and obey the rules for when you are using the road around the light rail corridor.

Stay alert and aware of your surroundings - Trams are quiet and unable to stop quickly.

Always follow traffic signals and signs.

When crossing the tracks on a bicycle, in a wheelchair, or with a pram, keep your wheels at right angles to the track so that they do not get stuck in the track.

Pedestrians should cross at designated crossings and intersections where available and always look both ways.

#### Staying Safe around the Light Rail

##### Pedestrians

Take extra care around Trams and Tram tracks - remember trams cannot always see you.

Do not cross directly behind a Tram as other road users may not be able to see you.

Cross at designated pedestrian crossings where available.

Do not be distracted by mobile phones and remove headphones before crossing the road.

Always look left and right and check twice for Trams before you cross the road.



##### Bicycle Riders

Take extra care around trams and tram tracks - remember trams cannot always see you.

If you need to ride across Tram tracks, keep your wheels at right angles to the track so that they do not get stuck in the track.

Make yourself visible by wearing bright, light or reflective clothing.

Look out for other road users, particularly in shared zones or on shared paths, and avoid making sudden movements.

Give hand signals when changing lanes or turning left or right.

Always follow the road rules, including traffic signals, and ride with care.

##### Drivers and Motorcycle Riders

Never queue across Tram tracks or intersections.

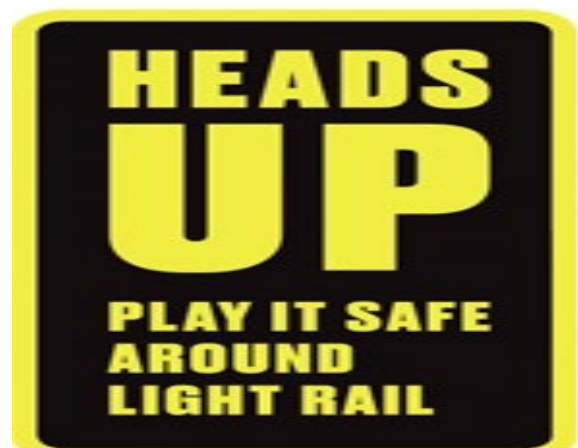
Always follow traffic signals and signs.

Never turn in front of a Tram.

Always follow the road rules and drive or ride with care.

**For added information - please visit:**

<https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/light-rail/index.html>



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